[Mr. Chairman] [23rd October 1971

I have further received a message from the Hon. Speaker, Legislative Assembly, transmitting a copy of the Tamil Nadu Prohibition (Suspension of Operation) Bill, 1971 (L.A. Bill No. 36 of 1971) as passed by the Assembly and signed by him for the concurrence of the Council.

(3) ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE SENATE OF THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have also to announce to the House that Thiru K. Rajaram and Pulavar O. Arivudai Nambi, M.L.Cs., are the only two candidates validly nominated to the Senate of the Annamalai University. As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, two, I declare them duly elected to the Senate of the Annamalai University.

III. PRIVILEGE MOTION *re* STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RELATING TO THE QUALIFICATIONS OF A DOCTOR IN THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have received notice of a motion from Thiru G. Vasantha Pai to raise a matter of privilege under rule 157 of the Legislative Council Rules in respect of a statement made by the Hon. the Minister for Public Health on the floor of this House on the 26th July 1971 relating to the qualifications of a Doctor in the Medical Department. I want the hon. Member to state briefly how this matter constitutes a breach of privilege of the House.

* THIRU G. VASANTHA PAI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the 26th July 1971 while I was addressing this august House on the Policy Note on Public Health and Medical Services, the Hon. the Minister for Public Health made the following statements on the floor of the House intercepting my speech.

When I was generally referring without mentioning any name, the Hon. Minister said :

"the name of the person who is holding charge is so and so who is foreign returned with a degree far better than a degree available in India."

Thereupon, Sir, I have replied to the Hon. Minister : "With great respect to the Hon. Minister, I have to state that I have got the certificate of so and so issued by the University of Montreal, where the certificate reads that so and so is a Philosophy Doctor in Medicine and experimental medicine, that is, for experimenting on rats and animals and it is not physiology", to which the Hon. Minister said "Let the hon. Member write to me and let him not utter any such words which he may not be able to prove at a later stage. The degree that is held by that Doctor is an accepted Degree and the Vice-Chancellor is aware of this Degree. I know personally that this Degree is accepted by the Medical Council of India—All India Medical Council. Therefore, I request the hon. Member not to go into the question of academic